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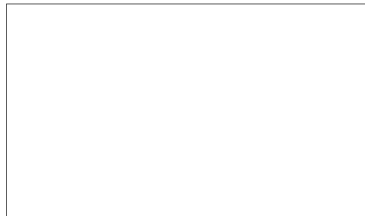
OLL 85-2552
23 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing for GAO Staffers on CIA Training of
Polygraphers

1. On 5 August, representatives of Polygraph Division, Office of Security, briefed GAO staffers on CIA training of polygraphers. The following individuals participated in the briefing:

CIA:



Chief, Polygraph Division
Deputy Chief, Polygraph
Division
Chief, Polygraph Training
and Research
Office of Legislative Liaison

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GAO: Irving Boker
Wanda Avila
Uldis Adansons

2. The Senate Armed Services Committee has requested a GAO evaluation of DOD polygrapher training and the feasibility of expanding that training. To that end, GAO is meeting with other organizations that conduct polygrapher training. GAO must provide a report to the Committee by the end of this calendar year. The GAO staffers agreed to consider the briefing at the SECRET level and to coordinate a draft report with CIA prior to publication.

3. The history of CIA polygrapher training was reviewed. The polygraph program was started in 1949 and through the early 1950's most CIA polygraphers were trained at the Leonard Keeler Institute in Chicago. Over the years, CIA developed in-house tutorial training tailored to Agency needs to screen applicants and agents. We had a formal curriculum and no formal school. In 1976-77, CIA went to the John Reed School in Chicago for basic training and apprenticeship, and had follow-up in-house training tailored to CIA practices.

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4. In late 1982, we had the first CIA polygrapher class and the seventh class will begin in September. We have averaged [] students to a class and will have [] next September. The course now lasts 15 1/2 weeks. In it there are many practical exercises and videotape is used. There are 11 weeks of classroom instruction, occasional monitoring of live cases, and in the last four weeks students run live cases at Headquarters under close supervision of instructors. The school is accredited, and it meets or exceeds all APA requirements.

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5. In lieu of a formal apprentice program, students are turned over to a Headquarters line supervisor, and are closely watched. New polygraphers begin with applicants, then move on to the more complex polygraph examinations including the reinvestigation program, [] and industrial polygraphs.

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6. CIA polygraphers are very carefully screened. All meet the standards, including a college degree, for employment with OS and their aptitudes and motives are carefully assessed.

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7. CIA exercises very formalized quality control procedures.

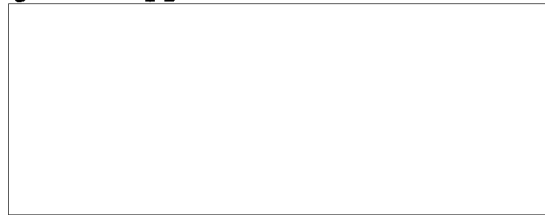
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8. There was some discussion of the differences between CIA and DOD polygraph training and application.

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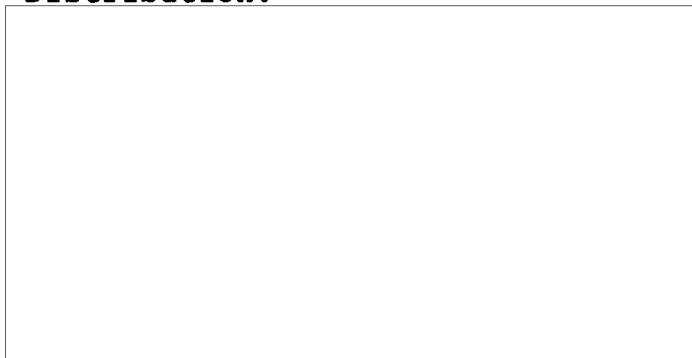


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Acting Chief, Liaison Division, OLL

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